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E.D.S.

PATENT
Atty. Docket No. MICRU:49155

U.S. PTO
JC997 09/865021
05/23/01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

DAVID A. FERRERA, ET AL.

Serial No. 09/219,572

Filed: December 22, 1998

For: VARIABLE STIFFNESS FIBER
OPTIC SHAFT

Date: January 22, 1999

Examiner: Unknown
Group Art Unit: Unknown

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper and the documents referred to as being attached or enclosed herewith are being deposited with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON D.C. 20231 on January 22, 1999.

James W. Paul, Reg. No. 29,967
Attorney for Applicant

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure and 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) and § 1.98(d), enclosed is Form PTO-FB-A820, listing art which may be material to patentability of the invention, together with copies of 15 references listed therein. The remaining 24 prior art references were previously submitted in the corresponding application, U.S. Serial No. 08/996,053, filed December 22, 1997.

Applicants believe that this Information Disclosure Statement has been filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(b)(3) and, therefore, no fee is due. However, if a fee is in fact due for this Information Disclosure Statement,

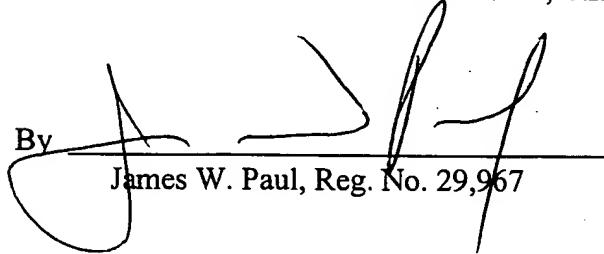
Application No. 09/219,572

PATENT

the Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 06-2425. A **duplicate copy** of this paper is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

FULWIDER PATTON LEE & UTECHT, LLP

By 
James W. Paul, Reg. No. 29,967

JWP:rlm

Enc: Information Disclosure Statement
Form PTO-FB-A820 (with 15 art references)

10877 Wilshire Boulevard
10th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90024
Tel. No. (310) 824-5555
FAX No. (310) 824-9696

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2-5
5/23/01

PATENT
Atty. Docket No. MICRU-49155

JC997 U.S. PTO
09/865021
05/23/01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

DAVID A. FERRERA, ET AL.

Serial No. 09/219,572

Filed: December 22, 1998

For: VARIABLE STIFFNESS FIBER
OPTIC SHAFT

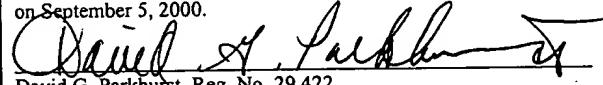
Date: September 5, 2000

Examiner: J. Kang

Group Art Unit 2874

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper and the documents referred to as being attached or enclosed herewith are being deposited with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to:
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON D.C. 20231
on September 5, 2000.


David G. Parkhurst, Reg. No. 29,422
Attorney for Applicant

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The information listed on the attached PTO/SB/08A has come to the attention of the applicants and is submitted to the Office under 35 U.S.C. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. Copies of the references listed are enclosed for the Examiner's consideration.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider and cite the enclosed references as well as the earlier identified references in the prior Information Disclosure Statements.

Our check in the amount of \$240.00 is enclosed for the government filing fee. Please charge any deficiency in the fee or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 06-2425. A duplicate of this document is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

FULWIDER PATTON LEE & UTECHT, LLP

By 
David G. Parkhurst, Reg. No. 29,422

DGP:dr

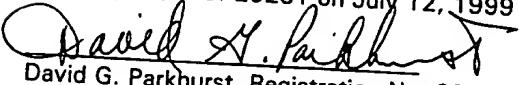
Enc.: Form PTO-SB-08A
10 Cited Prior Art References

Howard Hughes Center
6060 Center Drive, Tenth Floor
Los Angeles, California 90045
Tel. No. (310) 824-5555
FAX No. (310) 824-9696

PATENT

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on July 12, 1999


David G. Parkhurst, Registration No. 29,422

JC997 U.S. PTO
09/065021
05/23/01


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

DAVID A. FERRERA, ET AL.

Serial No. 09/219,572

Filed: December 22, 1998

For: VARIABLE STIFFNESS FIBER
OPTIC SHAFT

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July 12, 1999
Los Angeles, California 90024

SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure and 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), Form PTO-FB-A820 and copies of the references listed therein are enclosed in order to inform the Examiner of known prior art which may be material to patentability of the invention. Also enclosed is a copy of the International Search Report dated June 10, 1999 in which these references were first brought to Applicant's attention.

SUP.IDS#143953.1

Serial No. 09/219,572

It is believed that no fee is due in connection with this paper. However, should a fee be required, the Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 06-2425. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Supplemental Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

It is believed that these references will be helpful during examination of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

FULWIDER PATTON LEE & UTECHT, LLP


David G. Parkhurst
Registration No. 29,422
Attorney for Applicant

JWP/DGP:sn

Enc:

10877 Wilshire Boulevard
Tenth Floor
Los Angeles, California 90024
Tel. No.: (310) 824-5555
Fax No.: (310) 824-9696

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → +

PTO/SB/21 (6-98)
Approved for use through 09/30/2000. OMB 0651-0031
Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

Application Number	09/219,572
Filing Date	December 22, 1998
First Named Inventor	David A. Ferrera
Group Art Unit	2874
Examiner Name	J. Kang
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	86
Attorney Docket Number	MICRU-49155

JC997 U.S. PTO
09/865021
05/23/01



ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition Routing Slip (PTO/SB/69) and Accompanying Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Additional Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	<input type="checkbox"/> Form PTO-SB-08A and copies of the 10 cited references
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> Return Postcard
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application		
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		

Remarks



24201

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	FULWIDER PATTON LEE & UTECHT, LLP David G. Parkhurst, Reg. No. 29,422
Signature	
Date	September 5, 2000

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on this date: Sept. 5, 2000

Typed or printed name	David G. Parkhurst
Signature	
Date	September 5, 2000

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be send to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

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Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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PTO/SB/21 (6-98)

TRANSMITTAL FORM

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Total Number of Pages in This Submission

37

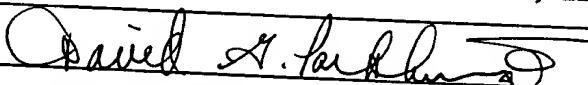
Application Number	09/219,572
Filing Date	DECEMBER 22, 1998
First Named Inventor	DAVID A. FERRERA
Group Art Unit	3739
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	MICRU:49155

JC997 U.S. PTO
09/865021
05/23/01

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

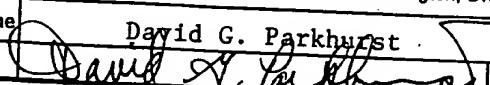
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition Routing Slip (PTO/SB/69) and Accompanying Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Additional Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	<input type="checkbox"/> RETURN POSTCARD
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SUPPLEMENTAL Information Disclosure Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Statement	
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application		
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	David G. Parkhurst, Esq., For FULWIDER PATTON LEE & UTECHT, LLP
Signature	
Date	July 12, 1999

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on this date:

Typed or printed name	David G. Parkhurst	Date	July 12, 1999
Signature			

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FEE TRANSMITTAL

for FY 2000

Small Entity payments must be supported by a small entity statement, otherwise large entity fees must be paid. See Forms PTO/SB/09-12. See 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.27 and 1.28.

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT **(\$)** 240.00

Complaint if Known	
Application Number	09/219,572
Filing Date	December 22, 1998
First Named Inventor	David A. Ferrera
Examiner Name	J. Kang
Group / Art Unit	2874
Attorney Docket No.	MICRU-49155

09/065021
05/23/01

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check one)

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayments to:

Deposit Account Number **06-2425**

Deposit Account Name **FULWIDER PATTON, ET AL.**

Charge Any Additional Fee Required Under 37 CFR §§ 1.16 and 1.17

Payment Enclosed:

Check Money Order Other

FEE CALCULATION

1. BASIC FILING FEE

Large Entity Small Entity

Fee Code (\$)	Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
101	690	201 345 Utility filing fee	
106	310	206 155 Design filing fee	
107	480	207 240 Plant filing fee	
108	690	208 345 Reissue filing fee	
114	150	214 75 Provisional filing fee	

SUBTOTAL (1) (\$)

2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES

Total Claims	Extra Claims	Fee from below	Fee Paid
Independent Claims	-20**	=	X =
Multiple Dependent	- 3**	=	X =

**or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see below

Large Entity Small Entity

Fee Code (\$)	Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	
103	18	203 9 Claims in excess of 20	
102	78	202 39 Independent claims in excess of 3	
104	260	204 130 Multiple dependent claim, if not paid	
109	78	209 39 ** Reissue independent claims over original patent	
110	18	210 9 ** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent	

SUBTOTAL (2) (\$)

FEE CALCULATION (continued)

3. ADDITIONAL FEES

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
105	130	205 65 Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	
127	50	227 25 Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	
139	130	139 130 Non-English specification	
147	2,520	147 2,520 For filing a request for reexamination	
112	920*	112 920* Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
113	1,840*	113 1,840* Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
115	110	215 55 Extension for reply within first month	
116	380	216 190 Extension for reply within second month	
117	870	217 435 Extension for reply within third month	
118	1,360	218 680 Extension for reply within fourth month	
128	1,850	228 925 Extension for reply within fifth month	
119	300	219 150 Notice of Appeal	
120	300	220 150 Filing a brief in support of an appeal	
121	260	221 130 Request for oral hearing	
138	1,510	138 1,510 Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
140	110	240 55 Petition to revive - unavoidable	
141	1,210	241 605 Petition to revive - unintentional	
142	1,210	242 605 Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
143	430	243 215 Design issue fee	
144	580	244 290 Plant issue fee	
122	130	122 130 Petitions to the Commissioner	
123	50	123 50 Petitions related to provisional applications	
126	240	126 240 Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	240.00
581	40	581 40 Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
146	690	246 345 Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR § 1.129(a))	
149	690	249 345 For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR § 1.129(b))	

Other fee (specify) _____

Other fee (specify) _____

Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid

SUBTOTAL (3) (\$) 240.00

SUBMITTED BY

Name (Print/Type)	David G. Parkhurst	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	29,422	Telephone	310/824-5555
Signature	<i>David G. Parkhurst</i>			Date	September 5, 2000

WARNING:

Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

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